

B.A.R.G. NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group. Inc. #6953T

ABN 44 247 200 143

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 3 MARCH2004

PRESIDENT: Gordon Cornell VK3FGC SECRETARY: John Kennedy VK3AIG TREASURER: Bob Terrill VK3BNC

NEXT MEETING - FRIDAY 26 MARCH 2004

At 8.00 pm

FROM THE PRESIDENT/EDITOR

DATES

Club meetings the last Friday each month

8.00 pm. Note the summer time Club meeting time starting time.

COMMITTEE please note that meetings (3rd Wednesday in the month) will also start at 8.00.

Next PUB NIGHT: Brown Hill Hotel Humffray Street Nth, Friday 16 April 2004 at usual time.
Attendees to confirm with Bob. VK3BNC

Construction Nights Construction nights are held on the second Monday each Monday each month at 7.30 .

NEAR MISS AT THE CLUB ROOMS!

On Friday 5 March evening both Bob BNC and Gordon FGC received phone calls from our neighbour at the Air Port that the tree out side the rooms had come down but there was no damage. Fearing the worst, they took a chain saw and went to investigate. The time was about 2040 when they arrived out there to see that it was not the tree but only a big branch that had broken away at the trunk and that the outer ends of the branch were in the porch., Using the lights of the Club Rooms and the headlights of Gordon's car they got to work with the chain saw to cut the branch up and drag the wood away from the area. There was no visible to the building but if the branch had fallen further to the left the may have been broken roof etc. The whole operation took little over an hour to complete.

A VERY NEAR MISS!!

A WARNING FOR THE UNWARY

A notice in a local paper may be of interest to members of the Amateur Radio fraternity. Apparently some brands of portable generators were supplied with 12V DC charging sockets. A lead with a corresponding plug and alligator clips on the other end for charging batteries was also

supplied. It seems the plug is capable of being plugged into Australian 240V AC outlet resulting in 240V AC being available at the alligator clips! In the newspaper advertisement, a "T" plug is pictured as being the appropriate connector for this application. Full information (but not the "T" plug picture) is available at. <http://www.ocei.vic.gov.au/downloads/PortableGenerators24-02-04.pdf>

This item comes from Mark A Dods of WICEN

INTER CLUB VISIT

John Collins from the Geelong Radio & Electronics Society has suggested and the Committee has agreed that GRES are to make an inter club visit for our March meeting. We look forward to their visit.

GRES meets at their Club rooms at the rear of the Belmont Community Youth Club, High Street Belmont at 8 pm. Every Thursday. They will make you welcome if you would like to visit

SICK LIST

The Club sends best wishes to Gordon VK3ABI who has been in hospital for a short period. We hope you are on the improve.

Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc.

Minutes of General Meeting 27 February 2004

Meeting opened by President Gordon @ 2000 vk3fgc @ 2000 hrs.

Apologies David vk3ur. Ian vk3idl. Bill vk3pal.

Minutes as read and circulated Moved vk3aig/axh. Carried.

Correspondence. In Neighbour Hood Cable Re termination of present agreement. Committee to discuss at next meeting.

Financial. Report and details presented. Moved vk3bnc/cmc. Carried.
Bob vk3bnc to investigate the Contents insurance.

Reports. Technical. Ian vk3axh to investigate the extended tail vk3rba.
Ian vk3axh reported that the quote for a rigger Ben Nevis is in the \$300 to \$350 range. Further follow up from Ian.
Screwdriver ant hope to finish at next get together.

Education Charlie vk3dcs reported no interest in exams at this time. After discussion Club decided to set permanent dates for exams on 2nd Saturday in May and November of each year.

Nets Western Zone Ian vk3cis reported usual numbers.

B.A.R.G. Craig vk3cmc reported good numbers including 2 H calls.
WICEN. Mars challenge 18 April.

Amenities. Doug vk3vba reported lawn mower well on way to being repaired.
Social Next get together at Cape Clear hotel on Saturday March 13 @ 6.30

General Business. John Moyle Field day to go ahead Ian vk3axh spoke to David McCunnie and believes the site at Gordon to be available.

Bob vk3bnc /John vk3cfh to check tent . Final arrangements to be worked out at next construction night.

John vk3aig to book loo at Palmer Hire.

Food handling appreciation course attended by Charlie/Shirley Clem/Pat. Next course to be attended by Johnvk3cfh/Bob vk3nbv.

Doug vk3vba to work with Steven vk3heg to set up Club Web page.

Doug vk3vba suggested Club look at special events station. Be discussed at next Committee meeting.

Windfarm trip, still in pipeline.

Stewart vk3ash spoke of the history of Bill Kinsella 3lk Lubeck also pricelist of Radios available Secretary to hold.

Meeting closed @2110 hrs Followed by a demonstration Bob vk3bnc on finding Antenna impedance. Resonance.etc using analyser.

JOHN MOYLE FIELD DAY

The Club is to take part in the Field Day on 20-21 March this year .

Members who have indicated their attendance:

VK3s CFH John, BNC Bob, AXH Ian, FGC. Gordon, AIG John, NBV Bob, VBA Doug and IDL Ian. A report should be in the next news letter.

WICEN NET

WICEN members would be welcome to check-in on the net which is held on Tuesday nights at 2130 on 3.60 MHz +/- the usual. The net organizer is John VK3YD. Net Control is being rotated through members. Craig VK3CMC ran the net from Cape clear on 16 Mar 04 As well as a check in there is news of future events and some technical talk. Why not join WICEN and join the net. Contact Gordon VK3FGC.

Motor Mower Now Repaired.

The Club's motor mower has been repaired by "Ballarat Chain Saws & Mowers of Creswick Rd" At a very reasonable price (that is why there is the free ad.) so we can mow the grass again and start the mowing roster again: once we get some rain and the grass grows again!

FOR SALE

Nally Tower	to remove	\$700.00
Rotator "Emotator" Model 1102MXX with controller		\$250.00
TH6 Antenna. Presently being used as a 2 element on 20.15 & 10	remainder stored and with instruction book. A bit rough but works well	\$150.00
Lattice Tower with wind up mast to 45 feet with winch and base		\$400.00
23 element 2 meter aerial needs small repair		\$100.00
Two 15 element aerals for 70 cm (432 MHz) with stacking harness		\$70.00
Two 6 element 2 metre wide spaced aerals		\$20.00 ea.
Dish 6 ft. ex PMG aluminium with elevation frame		\$50.00
Tower about 9 ft. high with prop. Pitch rotator and counter weight for dish above		\$200.00
Four twelve ft. Bamboo canes (Quad)		\$4.00
Aluminium tubes (New)	2 x 1/4 in. x 15 ft	\$8.00 ea
	12 x 3/8 in. x 18ft	\$10.00 ea.
	2 x 3/4 in x 20 ft	\$14.00 ea
20 ft light steel mast 2 in.		\$20.00
12 ft " " " "		\$14.00
5 Gal Steel tubes 1 3/8 in 6ft with flange at each end		\$5.00 ea
Extension Latter long wood good		\$50.00
5 1/2 sheets used peg board each \$5.00 full size		
Power divider for 432 MHz 50 Ohm in with three N three sockets, connects 2 beams		\$20.00
ICOM IC 22 2 meter transceiver		\$130.00
Power supply around 10 amps at least, used with above		\$40.00
Home brew winch		\$5.00
Home brew Elevator for satellite aerals 12 Volt (If I can find it!)		\$10.00
2 meter Linear line linear metered 6/40 Internal power supply wit RF switching 100 watt		\$149.00
Small rotator & controller		\$50.00

George Lance VK3DS 114 Brittain Street BALLARAT Ph 5332 3226

CLUB INFORMATION

REPEATERS	VK3RWA	(Voice) 147.100 Mt. Ben Nevis
	VK3RBA	(Voice) 146.750 Mt. Buninyong
	VK3RPC	(Packet) 144.750 Mt. Warrenheip
	VK3RBU	(Voice) 438.475 Mt. Hollowback
BEACON	VK3RMB	432.535 Mt. Buninyong.

CLUB NET VK3BML 3.610 MHz +/- QRM Thursday nights at 8 pm. (8.30 pm during daylight saving)

NEWS ITEMS should be sent to Gordon VK3FGC (e-mail Gordon.cornell@bigpond.com) or at the club mail at Box 1261 Mail Centre BALLARAT. 3354

CLUB e-mail vk3bml@barg.org.au.